

Message Text

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ACTION OC-05

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FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8331

INFO ATO WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 2270

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ACOM, ASEC, ABLD, BR

SUBJECT: PLANNING OF CCC AND ACR INSTALLATIONS - BRASILIA

REF: STATE 046304 PARA 6

1. THE PURPOSE OF THIS MESSAGE IS TO RESPOND TO THE INQUIRY
POSED IN REFTEL REGARDING THE POTENTIAL COMPLETION DATE OF THE
EMBASSY OFFICE BUILDING AND THE SCHEDULING OF THE INSTALLATION
OF THE SUBJECT FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT.

2. IN A MEETING MARCH 24, INCLUDING REPRESENTATIVES FROM ATO,
TSO KRAFT, LT. HOFF (COMMANDER OF THE SEABEE DETACHMENT), THE
RSO AND THE FBO SUPERINTENDENT OF CONSTRUCTION, THE FOLLOWING
PROBLEMS WERE IDENTIFIED AND THE IMPACT OF THOSE PROBLEMS ON
THE COMPLETION SCHEDULE OF THE BUILDING ASSESSED:

(A) THE EXTENSIVE ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS IN THE THE C&R AREA
PREPARATORY TO THE INSTALLATION OF THE ENCLOSURE ARE ESTIMATED BY
LT. HOFF TO REQUIRE SIX TO EIGHT WEEKS FOR A CREW OF THREE SEABEES.

(B) ATO HAS ORDERED AN INITIAL SHIPMENT OF MATERIAL BUT A
SUBSEQUENT ORDER WILL BE NECESSARY (1) TO INSURE THAT ALL REQUIRED
EQUIPMENT IS AVAILABLE AND (2) TO REFINER THE INITIAL ORDER WHICH
WAS DONE ON THE BASIS OF A GENERAL TAKE-OFF OF QUANTITIES OF
MATERIALS BEFORE THE ATO TEAM HAD COMPLETED THE DETAILED DRAWINGS
(WHICH WERE COMPLETED DURING THEIR CURRENT VISIT TO THE POST).

THUS, THE SCHEDULING OF THE SEABEES WILL BE DETERMINED BY
THE FIRM ARRIVAL DATE IN BRASILIA OF THE ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

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WHICH WILL BE SPECIFIED IN THE SECOND ORDER.

(C) THE SECURITY PRIORITIES FOR SERVICES OF SEABEES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD ARE HEAVY AT THIS TIME. DUE TO PRESENTLY SCHEDULED COMMITMENTS LT. HOFF APPEARED TO HAVE GENUINE CONCERNS AS TO HOW MUCH SEABEE MANPOWER COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE, INCLUDING PARTICULARLY THE NUMBER OF SEABEES WHO ARE QUALIFIED ELECTRICIANS.

3. THE CUMULATIVE EFFECT OF THE ABOVE-CITED CONSIDERATIONS, EXCLUDING THE QUESTION OF HOW MANY SEABEES WITH THE REQUISITE SKILLS COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE, IS THAT JUNE ONE APPEARS TO BE THE EARLIEST DATE ON WHICH THE INSTALLATIONS IN THE CCC AREA COULD SAFELY BE SCHEDULED. IT SHOULD BE STRESSED, HOWEVER, THAT THIS DATE IS TOTALLY DEPENDENT ON ATO'S ORDERING AND DELIVERING A SECOND SHIPMENT OF MATERIALS.

4. TSO KRAFT ENVISIONS PLANNING THE INSTALLATION OF THE ACR APPROXIMATELY MID-AUGUST, AT WHICH TIME THE SEABEE TEAM WOULD HAVE FINISHED ITS INSTALLATION WORK IN THE COMMUNICATIONS AREA.

5. OTHERWISE, THE COMPLETION DATE OF THE NEW OFFICE BUILDING DEPENDS ESSENTIALLY ON THE MANUFACTURING AND DELIVERY OF THE EXTERIOR WINDOW GLASS. FBO IS AWARE OF THE FACT THAT PITTSBURG PLATE GLASS COMPANY, AS OF LAST WEEK, HAD NOT STARTED TO MANUFACTURE AND CUT THIS GLASS BECAUSE IT HAD NOT RECEIVED AN AUTHENTICATED SIGNED SET OF DRAWINGS TO CONFIRM THE ACCURATE MEASUREMENT TO WHICH THE GLASS SHOULD BE CUT. IT IS ASSUMED THAT A SECOND SET OF CERTIFIED DRAWINGS HAVE BEEN NOW RECEIVED IN MIAMI BY ENCOL'S PURCHASING AGENT (GREAT AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL TRADING) AND HAVE BEEN FORWARDED UNDER AN APPROPRIATE REGISTRY TO PITTSBURG PLATE.

6. THE CONTRACTOR HAS INCREASED HIS WORK FORCE WITHIN THE LAST 10 DAYS AND THE PROJECT IS BEGINNING TO SHOW AN INCREASED MOMENTUM. THERE ARE NO OTHER FUNDAMENTAL DECISIONS PENDING IN FBO FOR WHICH THE SUPERINTENDENT OF CONSTRUCTION OR THE CONTRACTOR ARE WAITING. ONCE PITTSBURG PLATE HAS FINISHED THE PRODUCTION AND SHIPPED THE GLASS, AN ACCURATE COMPLETION DATE CAN BE FORECAST. IT LOOKS NOW AS THOUGH AUGUST IS THE EARLIEST LIKELY COMPLETION DATE, WHICH COULD SLIP TO SEPTEMBER OR EVEN OCTOBER, DEPENDING ON THE AVAIL-
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ABILITY OF THE GLASS. OUR CURRENT ESTIMATE IS THAT THE PROJECT WILL BE READY FOR FINAL INSPECTION BETWEEN AUGUST 15 AND SEPTEMBER 15, BARRING AN UNDUE DELAY IN THE MANUFACTURE OF THE GLASS OR A MARITIME OR LONGSHORE STRIKE TO IMPEDE NORMAL DELIVERY.
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